THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e) A request was received from the Government of Assam for Central assistance of Rs. 72.00 crores for upgradation of Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati. Later, on the suggestion of an expert team from Directorate General of Health Services, the State Government requested that while the project may be approved for implementation during 9th Plan period, part of the amount may be approved for attending to priority areas during 1996-97. Accordingly, Planning Commission has agreed in principle to provide Rs. 9.50 crores for the purpose in the Annual Plan 1996-97 or 1997-98. The Planning Commission has also asked the State Government to send the detailed proposal for upgradation for its consideration alongwith the Annual Plan document.

Projects in Nehru Yuvak Kendras

2292. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various projects started and completed so far in Nehru Yuvak Kendras of Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for each project year-wise during the last three years and progress made in this regard in each district of Maharashtra;

(c) the names of the proposed schemes/projects likely to be undertaken in each district of Maharashtra during 1997 to 2000 AD;

(d) the details ot the sources of income required for carrying out the activities of Nehru Yuvak Kendras; and

(e) the details of the grounds on which financial assistance is provided to these Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Policy on Admission on Technical/ Engineering Institutions

2293. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised a comprehensive national policy on admission to technical/ engineering courses in Government/private institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), a statutory body responsible for proper planning and coordinated development of Technical Education system throughout the country has laid down regulations for admissions to technical institutions which were notified in the Gazette in May, 1994.

[Translation]

Ex-Servicemen

2294. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of ex-servicemen in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) the funds provided for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) the facilities extended by the Union Government, for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the amount sanctioned for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) As on 31.12.96, a total number of 2,39,455 ex-Servicemen were registered with various Zila Sainik Boards in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) During the last three financial years, loans/ financial assistance were provided to the ex-Servicemen of the State under three Self Employment Schemes (SEMFEXs) as under :-

Year	Amount
	(Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	65.51
1994-95	134.32
1995-96	175.31

Besides, an expenditure of Rs. 9,60,931 has been incurred under PEXSEM Scheme in Uttar Pradesh for training of ex-Servicemen during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(c) The Central Government schemes and programmes for rehabilitation of ex-Servicemen are applicable to the ex-Servicemen residing in all the States

including the State of Uttar Pradesh. These rehabilitation schemes/programmes are as under :-

(i) Central Government has provided following percentage of reservation in Government jobs for ex-Servicemen :-

	Central Government	Central PSUs/ Banks
Group 'C' posts	10%	14.5%
Group 'D' posts	20%	24.5%

(ii) Besides, in Para Military Forces, a reservation of 10% is also provided in posts of Assistant Commandants. Recruitment in Defence Security Corps is earmarked for ex-Servicemen.

(iii) Relaxation in age and educational qualifications for ex-Servicemen for employment in Government jobs.

(iv) Training Programmes for improving their employability in Government job or to enable them to take self-employment after retirement.

(v) Loan facilities under SEMFEX-I, SEMFEX-II and SEMFEX-III schemes for setting up self - employment ventures.

(vi) 7.5% of petroleum product agencies reserved for allotment to widows/dependents of posthumous gallantry award winners, war disabled, war widows etc.

(d) to (f) The schemes regarding reservation of jobs for ex-Servicemen in Government Departments, relaxation in Age and educational qualifications, reservation of petroleum product agencies for war widows/war disabled etc., do not require specific allocation of funds, and are in the nature of concessions/ preferences provided to ex-Servicemen. The amount of loan/financial assistance provided to ex-Servicemen in a particular financial year depends on the number of ex-Servicemen applying for the same and fulfilling the conditions therefor.

Facilities to ex-servicemen

2295. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the facilities being provided to ex-servicemen, the widows of soldiers and their families;

(b) whether there is any scheme for providing medical facility to them as is being provided to Central Government Employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and whether the Government would consider it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d) The important facilities being provided to the ex-Servicemen, the widows of Service personnel and their families are briefly as under :

RESETTLEMENT FACILITIES

(i) Central Government have reserved 10 per cent of Group 'C' posts and 20 per cent of Group 'D' posts for ex-Servicemen. 10 per cent posts of Assistant Commandants in Para Military Forces are also reserved for ex-Servicemen. Central Public Sector Undertakings and Nationalised Banks provide 14.5 per cent reservation in Group 'C' and 24.5 per cent in Group 'D' posts to ex-Servicemen.

(ii) Loans/financial assistance for setting up small scale industries, Service industries, Agro-based industries, Khadi & Village industries are provided to ex-Servicemen under three self-employment schemes known as SEMFEX-I, SEMFEX-II and SEMFEX-III.

(iii) Government have reserved 7.5% of the Oil product agencies i.e., LPG Kerosene Oil agencies and Petrol Pumps for widows/ dependents of posthumous gallantry award winners, war widows, war disabled and for personnel disabled during peace time with disability of 50% and above.

WELFARE FACILITIES

(i) Ex-Servicemen can avail of Canteen facilities from the nearest CSD canteens.

(ii) Children of Defence Personnel killed or permanently disabled in action who are studying in institutions under the Department of Education, are granted complete exemption from tution fee and other fee levied by the institution.

(iii) Reservation of 25 seats in MBBS and one seat in BDS have been made for the wards of ex-Servicemen killed or disabled in action or during in peace time due to attributable causes.

(iv) Two seats in each of the six IITs are reserved for children of the Defence/Para Military Forces personnel killed or permanently disabled in action.

(v) Twenty five percent seats are reserved for wards of serving and retired Armed Forces personnel in Sainik Schools.

(vi) 50% concession is provided in air fare for travel in domestic flight of Indian Airlines to recipients of gallantry awards of Param Vir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Ashok Chakra and